the Akhil Bharatiya Grahak Panchayat in regard to the high prices being charged by drug manufacturers;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the memorandum has expressed Government's indifference towards the consumers of medicines; and

(c) if so, what are the main suggestions made by this organisation?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI): (a) Akhil Bharatiya Grahak Panchayat has submitted memorandum dated the 21st March, 1986 suggesting certain points which should be kept in view while framing Drug Policy.

(b) and (c) The memorandum urges to give adequate importance to the consumer in the formulation of the Drug Policy. Main suggestions made in for memorandum *inter-alia* include strict quality control on drug formulations, ban on toxic, harmful and irrational drugs, measures aimed at making available drugs at reasonable cost, encouraging the use of generic names, amendments in Drug and Magic Remedies Act etc.

Price fixation orders of bulk drugs and formulations

*13. SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM:
SHRIMATI MAIMOONA SULTAN:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the drug companies who have challenged the price fixation orders of bulk drugs as well as formulations alongwith the name of each bulk drug and formulation;

(b) what was the price fixed for each by his Ministry and what price is being charged by each of those drug companies and since when these companies are charging their own prices;

(c) whether it is a fact that these companies got stay orders from different courts;

(d) if so, what were the main grounds on which the stay orders were granted; and

(e) what steps have been taken by Government to provide relief to the poor people of the country in this regard, and what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI): (a) A statement giving the details of the prices of bulk drugs and formulations challenged in the Courts, to the extent available, is attached at Statement I. [*See* Appendix CXXXVIII, Annexure No. 1].

(b) A Statement giving the details is at Statement II. [*See* Appendix CXXXVIII, Annexure No. 2]. The Companies are charging the prices of bulk drugs/formulations as allowed to them by the High Courts throuhg their judgment/stays granted in each case from time to time.

(c) While some companies are operating on the basis of the stays granted by the Courts, others are operating on the basis of judgements of the High Courts.

(d) The High Courts have granted stays/passed judgements against the orders relating to prices fixed for Bulk Drugs and formulations under Drugs Prices (Control) Order, 1979 on the grounds *inter alia* that before fixing/revising the prices the principles of natural justice have not been followed and many costs which ought to have been allowed have not been allowed.

(e) Government have filed the Special Leave Petition against judgements delivered by the Delhi High Court in respect of 13 Writ Petitions. Recently Government have refixed the prices of 52 packs of multivitamin formulations produced by M/s. Abbott Labs., Sandoz Ltd. and Pfizer Ltd., keeping in view the judgement of the Bomay High Court. This refixation in prices has resulted in reduction in prices of 14 packs of formulations.